**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Presently amended) A masterbatch which includes:

a chlorinated polyolefin;

~~an acrylic~~ processing aid selected from the group consisting of an acrylic processing aid or a wax processing aid;

an acrylic impact modifier; and

at least one additive selected from the group consisting of a dye, pigment, non-acrylic functional additive or non-wax functional additive; and

wherein the masterbatch is substantially free of PVC.

2. (Canceled) A masterbatch according to claim 1 which is substantially free of PVC.

3. (Presently amended) A masterbatch according to claim 1 ~~which~~ further ~~includes~~ comprising processing additives, incidental ingredients, fillers and/or impurities.

4. (Presently amended) A masterbatch according to claim 1, ~~which~~ further ~~includes~~ comprising one or more additives selected from the group consisting of ~~including~~ calcium oxide ~~(typically present in an amount 4.0 to 6.0% by weight of the masterbatch)~~, calcium stearate ~~(typically present in an amount 1.5 to 6.0% by weight of the masterbatch)~~, chalk ~~(typically present in an amount 0.0 to 30.0% by weight of the masterbatch)~~, and a wax, ~~such as amide wax, polyethylene wax oxidised or unoxidised, or montan wax (the wax is preferably present in an amount 0% to 10% by weight of the masterbatch)~~.

5. (Presently amended) A masterbatch according to claim 1, wherein the chlorinated polyolefin is present in an amount up to about 30% by weight ~~(preferably 25% by weight)~~ of the total weight of the masterbatch.

6. (Presently amended) A masterbatch according to claim 1, wherein the chlorinated polyolefin ~~includes~~ is selected from a the group consisting of chlorinated polyester elastomer, chlorinated polyethylene or chlorinated polypropylene.

7. (Original) A masterbatch according to claim 1, wherein the chlorine content of the polyolefin is greater than 30.

8. (Presently amended) A masterbatch according to claim 1, wherein the crystallinity (DS) of the chlorinated polyolefin ~~may~~ is in the range of ~~vary from~~ about 0 to about 1.0~~, (preferably the crystallinity is about 0.7)~~.

9. (Presently amended) A masterbatch according to claim 1, wherein the shore A hardness of the chlorinated polyolefin is no more than about 95~~, (typically no more than about 65)~~.

10. (Presently amended) A masterbatch according to claim 1, wherein the acrylic processing aid is present in an amount up to about 10% ~~(preferably up to about 5%)~~ by weight of the masterbatch.

11. (Original) A masterbatch according to claim 1, wherein the acrylic processing aid is a methylmethacrylate based processing aid.

12. (Original) A masterbatch according to Claim 11, wherein the methylmethacrylate based processing aid is co-polymerised with ethyl acrylate (BA), Butyl acrylate (BA), Butyl methylacrylate (BMA) or styrene.

13. (Presently amended) A masterbatch according to claim 1, wherein the processing aid includes a polymethyl methacrylate based processing aid~~, (such as the type commercially available as Reamod P220 or Reamod P270)~~.

14. (Presently amended) A masterbatch according to claim 1, wherein the acrylic impact modifier is present in an amount up to about 30% by weight ~~(preferably up to about 25% by weight)~~ of the masterbatch.

15. (Original) A masterbatch according to claim 1, wherein the acrylic impact modifier may be an acrylic/styrene polymer, poly (BA/MMA) or poly (EA/MMA).

16. (Presently amended) A multipurpose masterbatch carrier which includes:

a chlorinated polyolefin;

~~an~~ processing aid selected from the group consisting of an acrylic processing aid and a wax processing aid; and

an acrylic impact modifier; and

wherein the masterbatch is substantially free of PVC.

17. (Original) A carrier according to claim 16 for use with dyes, pigments, functional additives or the like.

18. (Presently amended) An additive for use in PVC processing, ~~which comprises~~ comprising a substantially PVC free blend of a chlorinated polyolefin, ~~an acrylic~~ processing aid selected from the group consisting of an acrylic processing aid and a wax processing aid, and an acrylic impact modifier.

19. (Presently amended) A method of manufacturing a masterbatch carrier, which method includes:

a) blending at least one chlorinated polyolefin, at least one processing aid selected from the group consisting of an acrylic processing aid and a wax processing aid, and at least one acrylic impact modifier; ~~and~~

b) forming the blend into a shaped body; and

wherein the carrier is substantially free of PVC.

20. (Presently amended) A method of manufacturing a masterbatch suitable for use in the colouring of PVC, which method includes:

a) blending at least one chlorinated polyolefin, at least one processing aid selected from the group consisting of an acrylic processing aid and a wax processing aid, at least one acrylic impact modifier and a pigment and/or dye; and

b) forming the blend into a shaped body.

21. (Original) A method according to claim 20, wherein the blending in step a) is in a high speed high shear mixer.

22. (Presently amended) A method according to claim 20, wherein the temperature during step a) raises above ambient temperature~~, preferably below about 80°C~~.

23. (Original) A method according to claim 22, wherein a process oil is added during step a).

24. (Presently amended) A method according to claim 20, wherein the chlorinated polyolefin, the acrylic processing aid and the acrylic impact modifier are all preferably free flowing powders, ~~typically~~ having a particle size of less than about 1200$\mu$ ~~(preferably less than about 700 $\mu$) in diameter~~.

25. (Presently amended) A method according to claim 20, wherein the additives ~~(if present)~~ and the dye and/or pigment typically have a particle size of less than about 1200$\mu$ in diameter.

26. (Presently amended) A method according to claim 23, wherein the chlorinated polyolefin, the acrylic modifier and the process oil ~~(if present)~~ are preblended prior to step a), ~~preferably for up to about 1 minute~~.

27. (Presently amended) A method according to claim 26, wherein the resultant blend of chlorinated polyolefin, acrylic modifier and process oil (if present) is subsequently blended with the remaining components in step a).

28. (Presently amended) A method according to claim 20, wherein the blending in step a) may be for up to about 30 minutes~~, preferably up to about 20 minutes~~.

29. (Presently amended) A method according to claim 20, wherein the forming in step b) is extrusion~~, preferably using a co-rotating screw extruder~~.

30. (Presently amended) A method according to claim 20, wherein the extrusion temperature may be up to about 190°C~~, (preferably in the range 125°C to 140°C)~~.

31. (Presently amended) A method of colouring PVC, which method includes blending a base PVC material with a masterbatch substantially free of PVC comprising a chlorinated polyolefin, a processing aid selected from the group consisting of an acrylic processing aid and a wax processing aid, and at least one additive selected from the group consisting of a dye, pigment or functional additive~~, with a base PVC material~~.

32. (Original) A method according to claim 31, wherein the masterbatch is blended with the PVC material in a ratio in the range of 1:100 to 1:10 masterbatch to base PVC material.

33. (Presently amended) A method according to claim 20, wherein the chlorinated polyolefin and the acrylic modifier are preblended prior to step a)~~, preferably for up to about 1 minute.~~

34. (Original) A method according to claim 33, wherein the resultant blend of chlorinated polyolefin and acrylic modifier is subsequently blended with the remaining components in step a).

35. (New) A masterbatch according to claim 4, wherein the wax is selected from the group consisting of amide wax, oxidized polyethylene wax, unoxidized polyethylene wax, and montan wax.

36. (New) A method according to claim 35, wherein the wax is present in an amount of 0% to 10% by weight of the masterbatch.

37. (New) A method according to claim 22, wherein the temperature rises to less than about 80°C.

38. (New) A method according to claim 29, wherein the forming in step b) is performed using a co-rotating screw extruder.

39. (New) A method according to claim 30, wherein the extrusion temperature is in the range of about 125°C to about 140°C.